## **NEWS RELEASE**

USDA Forest Service Coronado National Forest 300 West Congress Tucson, AZ 85701 www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado



For Immediate Release

Contact: Bill Schuckert (928) 348-1974 Dean McAlister (520) 388-8460 Marylee Peterson (520) 388-8343

## **CLARK PEAK FIRE**

TUCSON, AZ (May 8, 2006)—At 10:00 p.m.on Sunday, May 7, 2006, a wildfire was reported near Riggs Lake in the Pinaleno Mountains near Safford, Arizona. To date, the fire has burned approximately two acres. Current resources consist of one Arizona State Department of Corrections hand crew from Ft. Grant, one crew and two engines from the Safford Ranger District.

The apparent cause is an illegal abandoned campfire. Because all of Coronado National Forest is under fire restrictions, the fire is being investigated.

Although campfires are allowed in designated areas within campgrounds, Coronado National Forest officials would like to remind all forest visitors to use extreme caution and ascertain the campfire is 'dead cold' before leaving the campsite.

Violation of fire restrictions, which include building a campfire other than within a developed recreation site, is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, by a fine of not more than \$5000 for an indvidual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months or both.